

TITLE
SOLID IMAGING APPARATUS AND
METHOD WITH COATING STATION

ABSTRACT

5 A solid imaging apparatus and method produces an integral three-
dimensional object from a multiplicity of cross sectional portions of the object by
selectively exposing successive layers of a liquid photoformable composition to
actinic radiation. The apparatus includes a vessel for containing the composition
so as to present a free surface, and a movable platform disposed within the vessel
10 below the free surface. Part of the composition is transferred above the free
surface by lowering and raising a dispenser at predetermined positions located
away from the platform. A doctor blade contacts the composition transferred
above the free surface, and then moves over the platform to form a substantially
uniform layer of the composition.

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FOOTNOTES